

# BULLETIN

## CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

130 East Twenty-second Street, New York City

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*"The child is the hope of humanity. Every child is a new hope for the world. Elders are finished. Children are beginning. Good or bad we are as we are. But the child is to be formed. Its mind awaits the touch of ideals. Its emotions ask direction and refinement. Its powers seek to be aroused and guided in the enriching service of God and of humanity."*—REV. WM. J. KERBY, PH.D., "The Child and the Church."

### APRIL REGIONAL CONFERENCES

A newly organized New England Regional Conference will meet on the 12th and 13th of April in Boston. Mr. Cheney C. Jones is Chairman of the Committee in charge of arrangements for this Conference. A Western Regional Conference will meet in Kansas City, Missouri, April 15th and 16th. Mrs. C. N. Seidlitz of Kansas City is Chairman of the Local Committee. The Mid-Atlantic Regional will meet in Richmond, Virginia, on the 22d and 23d of April.

### TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT

The Transportation Agreement has to be signed annually, a provision designed to keep its character from becoming a mere formality. The Secretary of the Committee on Transportation of Allied National Agencies, of which Mr. Carstens is the Chairman, advises us that only 36 of our members have signed the Agreement so far this year. Some time ago we called attention to the fact that in all some 65 signed the Agreement last year, although this is a requirement on all members of the League whose work makes them likely to transport children or adults.

Will you please sign and send in the cards by the 15th of April to Miss Ruth Hill, Room 706, 130 E. 22d Street, New York City? There are no dues to stand in the way of prompt attention to this matter.

### THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

The League meetings are to be held at Hotel Statler. Reservations should be sent to William I. Lacy, Secretary Committee on Housing and Hotels, 502 Electric Building, Cleveland (details in February BULLETIN).

### ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

#### IMPORTANT COMMITTEES

An important committee was appointed to deal with the matter of education and training, and a temporary Committee on Finance was named. The Committee on Education and Training, of which Miss Edith Abbott is Chairman, and Dr. R. R. Reeder, Dr. Neva Deardorff, William Hodson, Dr. Helen MacMurchy and Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, members, is considering the possibility of extending the teaching service of the League and its co-ordination with other services in the country.

The Temporary Advisory Committee on Finance, composed of Mr. Henry W. Thurston, Mr. Alfred F. Whitman, Miss Mary E. Boretz, Dr. Neva R. Deardorff, and Mr. Leon W. Frost, was formed to co-operate in securing the additional contributions necessary to balance this year's budget, a summary of which was published in last month's BULLETIN.

#### NEW FINANCIAL YEAR

It was voted that the fiscal year be from January 1st to January 31st, beginning 1927.

#### ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP

The Division of Mental Hygiene of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Diseases, the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children of New Orleans, Louisiana, were admitted to membership. The application of the Christian Service League of Wichita, Kansas, was again laid on the table, pending the completion of plans for the re-uniting of the two Kansas societies.

#### STANDARDS OF MEMBERSHIP

In conjunction with the standards printed in the January BULLETIN, the Executive Committee believes that member agencies should subscribe to the provisions required in the Standards of Membership, and that respective executives should make known to their Boards these standards; also that, in order that no injustice may be done, a statement may be obtained

from member agencies as to just where they would have difficulty in applying these standards, thus giving opportunity for interpretation and help.

#### NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Miriam Van Waters of Los Angeles, and Mr. Paul T. Beisser of Baltimore, Maryland, were elected to the Executive Committee to succeed Mr. R. B. Ralls of Seattle, and Mr. A. A. Sprague of Chicago.

#### VACATIONS AND SICK LEAVES

A committee reported on the basis of a questionnaire to eighty-two different agencies, and made the following recommendations which were adopted with the proviso that the statements about sick leaves be regarded simply as principles and not as definite recommendations.

The report recommends regular vacations for staff members, as a rest from service and preparation for future service. Provisions should be made to avoid the piling up of work during absence. Attendance at conferences should be encouraged and not considered part of the vacation time.

In the matter of sick leave the committee stated that cases were so various that it could only suggest the policy of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare of North Carolina "as a basis for discussion." Under this policy all of the members are credited with ten days' sick leave with pay. Against this credit are charged all absences because of sickness during the year. At the end of the year ten days more are credited to any balance remaining.

#### NEW STATISTICAL FORMS

These were ordered to be printed and distributed to members in whatever quantity they require for the first year.

#### FINANCES

In a number of the larger cities member organizations have joined together in an effort to raise a portion of the League's Budget for 1926.

Approximately one-quarter of the entire budget of \$66,884 has been pledged. Pledges to date are as follows:

Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania .....	\$4,500
Chicago, Illinois .....	4,000
Rochester, New York .....	3,000
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania .....	1,000
Baltimore, Maryland .....	1,000
Detroit, Michigan .....	700
Charleston, South Carolina .....	100
Jacksonville, Florida .....	200
Greenwood, South Carolina .....	50

#### A SOCIAL WORK MOTHER

She had taken her daughter to be examined by the doctor, as she had taken many another infant in her case work days. When the husband appeared to escort his wife and daughter home she turned to the doctor in her best professional manner: "Oh, doctor," said she, "I'd like you to meet the baby's father!"—C. W. A.

#### RECREATION FOR ORPHANS

A surveyor was asking what recreation the children had. "Well," replied the Superintendent of the Negro Orphanage, "mostly they goes to the funerals of their benefactors."—M. I. A.

#### MISS TAYLOR'S PAPER AVAILABLE

To meet requests for Miss Taylor's paper, "Opportunity of the Case Worker to Prevent Conduct Difficulties," which was sent as an enclosure to members last month, the League office has purchased fifty additional copies of the reprint. These may be had from the office at five cents each.

#### HOW TO AVOID TYPHOID

"Avoid typhoid fever by:

1. Staying away from typhoid patients.
2. Preventing sick persons from handling foods.
3. Remembering not to swallow water when swimming.
4. Subscribing for safe milk and pure water supplies.
5. Sending typhoid patients to the hospital in the first week.
6. Refusing to drink from any well or spring that may admit drainage.
7. Appreciating that a case of uncontrolled typhoid may produce an epidemic.
8. Teaching children how diseases are caused, spread, controlled and avoided.
9. Co-operating with local boards of health by having all cases reported and controlled.
10. Getting vaccinated and thereby further safeguarding one's self and family."—*Hygeia*, February, 1926.

#### THE LITTLE CHILD AND FEAR

Miss Elizabeth Cleveland, Supervisor of Girls' and Women's Activities, Detroit Public Schools, contributed a very excellent article under the above caption to "The World Tomorrow," reprinted in the December "Mental Hygiene Bulletin." Quotation from the article would not do justice to the clarity and insight with which it is written. Miss Cleveland makes the point

that the emotional disturbance which underlies many fear states is something not easily controllable even when the child understands the cause of the disturbance. Where the child does not understand the cause of the disturbance, or the disturbance presents a menace to the child's world, as when parents or foster parents quarrel seriously within the hearing of their children, the fear engendered is the more likely to do lasting damage to the individual's self-confidence and wholesome initiative. We would suggest that those who are interested to read a brief discussion of the matter secure the December Bulletin of the "National Committee for Mental Hygiene."

#### OWEN R. LOVEJOY RESIGNS

After twenty-two years of service Mr. Lovejoy has resigned his position as General Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee. Probably no single person in social work is so widely known and seems so much a part of the social work scheme in the United States as Mr. Lovejoy. As one of his friends has said, "I can't bear to think of your leaving the General Secretaryship of the National Child Labor Committee. What you have done in all these years to advance the welfare of the American child could not, I am sure, be overestimated." For the present Mr. Wiley H. Swift becomes Acting General Secretary in succession to Mr. Lovejoy.

The campaign of last year for the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment, while resulting unfavorably for the Committee, will probably stand as a logical climax in Mr. Lovejoy's career as an honest and statesman-like attempt to bring home to the people of the country the cause for which he has been fighting so long. The results of that year's work have been very apparent in the greatly quickened interest in many states to bring their child labor provisions up to good standards. Mr. Lovejoy lays down his work, but his contribution continues.

#### CONTROL OF MALNUTRITION

A demonstration for this purpose, backed by the Queensboro Tuberculosis Association and participated in by the Board of Education and Department of Health of New York City, was conducted last year in Jamaica, Long Island. Jamaica is not a crowded district, the children are not in any sense underprivileged, but the findings are none the less striking.

In preparation for the demonstration 1,716 children were weighed and measured. Thirty-two per cent of the girls and 23 per cent of the boys were found to be mal-

nourished, that is, retarded by at least one year in their growth, which is equivalent to 7 per cent. In addition to this, 26 per cent of the children were underweight, but less than 7 per cent. An interesting correlation appeared in the fact that the sight conservation class presented 53 per cent malnourished 7 per cent or greater.

The régime was set up for a hundred children, taken routinely from the sixth grade and lower. All necessary examinations were conducted, tonsillectomies were attended to, regular instruction was given to the children in groups of twenty, to which their mothers were invited, since a great part of the treatment hinged upon the inculcation of good habits, both in the child and in the family. The usual charts and stars were used.

Contrary to frequent opinion, the articles of food needed less attention than the quantity. The children were stimulated to keep in their note-books lists of all the food they ate on certain days and from these lists the nutrition worker calculated the amount of nourishment in calories each child received. Between 2,000 and 3,000 calories per day were required, which, in the opinion of the demonstration, made the mid-morning or mid-afternoon lunch a necessity, and all of the children in the demonstration group were given such a lunch.

Rest was provided of forty-minute periods for the children instead of the regulation gymnastics, and in spite of the time lost from classes teachers constantly reported that the children were making more rapid progress than previously.

For the sake of comparison a control group of similar ages but not under the régime of the demonstration was checked. Comparisons of results are very interesting. In the demonstration group an average of 5.75 pounds was the gain of each child in twelve weeks. During the same period the average gain of children in the control group was 1.25 pounds. Comparing these two with the latest available height and weight tables, the demonstration found that the control group lacked three-quarters of a pound of reaching the average of gain while the demonstration children gained 275 per cent.

Other interesting conclusions were worked out. The demonstration group uniformly improved, the control group remained about as it was, a few children moving from the undernourished to the border-line group. Scholastically it was found that in this school 15 per cent was the average number of children left back. This coincides exactly with the demonstration group, but the control group had 23 per cent. It seems clear to those conducting the demonstration that the relation was brought out not only between the food and rest habits of the group but also between the physical habits and scholastic attainment.



President—HENRY W. THURSTON, New York  
 Secretary—C. V. WILLIAMS, Chicago  
 Treasurer—ALFRED F. WHITMAN, 24 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, Mass.  
 Executive Director—C. C. CARSTENS, New York

### DOCTORS COMBAT THE "DEAD HAND"

The New York Community Trust is one of a number of such devices for receiving legacies, bequests, and sums of money for philanthropic purposes under conditions which insure that these funds shall never become frozen and unusable, as in a few cases funds have become, as the passage of years has wiped out those needs for which the funds were first set up. A group of very prominent New York doctors has signed the following statement in regard to the work of trusts as it may affect the devising of money for the benefit of children:

"During 13 years—to cite another instance of funds in danger of paralysis—institutional orphanages in the United States have increased at the rate of one about every fifteen days. Meanwhile the supply of orphans to fill them has shown signs of diminishing—this for the reason that:

1. The campaigns against typhoid fever, tuberculosis and other causes of death in middle life promise a decrease in the number of fathers who die in their children's infancy.
2. In the cases of those fathers who do die, an increasing proportion of their children escape dependence through mothers' pensions and widows' allowances.
3. In the remaining cases of dependent children, placement in private homes is proving both less expensive and more effective than constructing additional institutions.

"Without deprecating the excellent work of many existing 'asylums' for orphans, it appears demonstrable that changes in the size and nature of the problem and in the manner of caring for dependent children have tended to lessen the necessity for new orphanages, as compared with other urgent social needs."

The League has assisted certain donors to set up flexible provisions, and our members ought to make it a point to see that whatever bequests they have contact with are never in such form that they may not be used for an allied purpose or one that is in general what the testator had in mind.

### THE MENTAL LEVEL OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN

A relatively small number of children but careful investigation gives us the following facts from a New York County: Wards of the Department of Public Welfare sixteen years old or under have been tested during the past two years by the same examiner, partly as routine, partly on account of behavior or other diffi-

culties, but in general in a way to afford an unselected group. The following figures are quite suggestive:

	Children in Mothers' Allowance Families		Children in Boarding Homes		Children in Child-Caring Institutions	
	Num-ber	Per-centage	Num-ber	Per-centage	Num-ber	Per-centage
I. Q. below .70 . . . .	22	8.5	8	3.9	27	14.3
I. Q. .70 to .79 . . . .	28	10.9	32	15.2	50	26.4
I. Q. .80 to .89 . . . .	51	19.7	58	27.5	52	27.5
I. Q. .90 to 1.09 . . . .	124	48.0	99	47.1	57	30.1
I. Q. 1.10 up . . . . .	33	12.7	13	6.2	3	1.6
	258		210		189	

Comparing the children who are away from their own homes, that is, in boarding homes and in child-caring institutions, with those whose families are sufficiently established to continue with the assistance of mothers' aid, reveals a very significant difference. In the mothers' allowance group 60.7 per cent of the children are of normal or superior intelligence and 39.1 per cent subnormal, but in the group which had to leave their homes only 43 per cent are normal or superior and over 56 per cent are subnormal. Comparing the two groups with the results obtained by Terman from a thousand unselected school children, there is confirmation of the expectation that the general level of children requiring public support is below the average:

	Children in Mothers' Allowance Families (258)	Children Cared for Away From Home (399)	Total Dependent Group (657)	Terman 1,000 Unselected School Children
Below normal . . . . .	39.1%	56.7%	49.9%	20%
Normal or above . . . .	60.7%	43.0%	50.0%	80%

While these figures somewhat ameliorate disappointment over failure in adjusting the cases of dependent children with greater degree of success, they also raise the serious question once again as to the part mental equipment plays in dependency and what we are going to do about it.

### SIDE LIGHTS ON RURAL CHILD LIFE

At a Conference of County Workers of the State Charities Aid Association of New York, Mr. Homer Folks, Secretary, said: "The rural child is coming into his own, and in some respects the needy child in the country is better off than the city child."

Remarking on the extension of the County Agent system to 35 out of 57 counties in New York State, and how this is gradually reversing the old complaint that rural children receive little or no attention, Mr. Folks continues: "The city welfare agencies are well established with long traditions, more or less crystallized methods, sometimes with funds applicable to particular

plans only. They do not by any means represent an elastic and well-considered provision for the needs of the homeless child as we now see them. The rural county children's agent, however, is a very modern product—she is committed to no one method, has no endowment for a particular field, and can think of each child in terms solely of the actual needs of that particular child at that particular time. Her work is perfectly elastic, she has no established methods, no so-to-speak standard prescriptions among which she has to choose."

An article in the March "Welfare Magazine" of the Department of Public Welfare of the State of Illinois, by Mr. Maurice H. Krout, sometime Supervisor of Special Cases of the Jewish Charities of Chicago, attempts to analyze and summarize the advantages and disadvantages of the placement of children in rural foster homes. Mr. Krout writes:

"The outstanding disadvantages of farm placement seem to be the lower academic standards of the schools; poor plumbing facilities; frequent skin infections; lack of efficient medical services; abuses creeping into food, work, and sleeping arrangements; corporal punishment; and difficulties of supervising from a metropolitan office.

"The advantages on the other hand inhere in the fact that farm life is a well-ordered, normal type of life; that rural families are organized on a basis of mutual co-operation; that farmers, as people, are religious, sincere and honest; that the environment is simple and attractive; that recreation not inconsistent with the regularity of home life is generally found on the farm itself; that children come close to nature and develop an interest in the soil and animals; and finally, that there is a noticeable lack of temptation to 'go astray,' first, because of the self-sufficiency and simplicity of rural life; and second, because of the control informally exercised through the ritual of farm homes and the folkway of farm communities."

Attempting to discuss further the particular results for special cases he gives as his opinion that:

"Behavior difficulties in children, such as truancy, incorrigibility, and delinquency, benefit by the pursuit of steady tasks and firm but sympathetic treatment. This is undoubtedly secured in the well-ordered farm home. The attitude of foster parents towards schooling makes generally for as good school work as could be expected in view of the limitations set by the schools themselves and occasionally by the child's mentality. Boys have little opportunity for committing delinquent acts without immediate detection, and the incentive for the acts, as already mentioned, is absent. Excellent success is therefore met with in many cases of delinquent and 'difficult' boys."

Mental cases, particularly those of subnormal boys, seem to fit into the rural régime with considerable ease, so that after a time their mental peculiarities cease to be evident. The slower speed of life and the lower standard of schools enable them to live with greater comfort. On the other hand, the health problems need

to be carefully selected before placement in a rural foster home on account of the lack of complete medical facilities near at hand. Where regular habits, invigorating air, and fresh food are prime considerations, certain health cases may be benefited. Those requiring intermittent care had best be placed in urban homes.

Mr. Krout finishes his article by discussing the necessity of devising some way for a persistent and adequate supervision comparable to that used by high-grade societies in urban placements. He mentions the possibility of grouping placements by neighborhoods to reduce the geographical difficulty and also of establishing what in the Children's Home Societies would be called District Offices with a resident worker rather than depending upon an itinerant worker.

It would be interesting to have the opinions of some of our executives who have used rural homes for a number of years as to the validity of the statements quoted in this article. Brief discussions could be published in the BULLETIN if of sufficient general interest.

#### CHILD WELFARE NEWS

In compliance with the regulations for industrial home work which became effective in Pennsylvania October 1, 1925, licenses were issued within the first month to approximately 5,000 home workers regularly engaged in various phases of manufacturing processes, according to the report of the State Department of Labor and Industry. (For regulations see News Summary of Federal Children's Bureau for October 4, 1925.) A number of the larger manufacturing establishments have appointed homework supervisors whose duty is to exercise control over the conditions affecting work issued by the establishment. Manufacturers who are not located in Pennsylvania, but for whom work is distributed in the State through local agents, have obtained licenses for such agents in order that they may operate legally in Pennsylvania.

The investigation made under the auspices of the Department of Labor and Industry which preceded the development of the home-work regulations showed that a large number of children were engaged in home work. In 620 of the 1,526 homes visited there were found 1,239 children under sixteen at work, of whom approximately 50 per cent were between ten and fourteen years of age and 15 per cent under eight. In many homes the inspectors found illness and unsanitary conditions. The new regulations, in addition to providing a means for the enforcement of the child labor laws, prohibit the sending of goods in process of manufacture to homes where there is contagious disease.

The annual report of the Governor of Porto Rico for the year ended June 30, 1925, contains several items of



interest to child welfare workers. Juvenile courts have existed in the Island since 1915, and during the past year 288 cases came before them. Delinquent boys who are brought before the court, if destitute or abandoned, are sent to the Porto Rico Reform School, where they receive school instruction through the eighth grade and are taught trades. As yet there is no reform school for girls, but plans are now on foot to establish one near Ponce, where land for the purpose has already been secured.

The infant mortality rate in Porto Rico remains uniformly high, the report states. Last year's rate was 148 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 128 the preceding year—an increase attributed to the prevalence of epidemic diseases during the year. New prenatal and baby clinics were established and the visiting nurse and social service work was reorganized. Three new centers were added to the 13 already in operation.

Boston now has 29 weekly health clinics for children conducted by the city. A plan has been perfected whereby the medical personnel of the clinics is supplied by the pediatric departments of the medical schools of Harvard University, Tufts College, and Boston University. This assures a high type of medical service for the clinics and gives the schools an opportunity to use the clinics as teaching centers for their students.

Because of the special need of effective public health work in the rural districts of Russia, the central Government issued an order in December, 1925, directing the federated States of the country to introduce a new system of public health work in these districts. Among the provisions of the order are the following: Free medical and preventive treatment for all working people; measures to diminish infant mortality; welfare work for mothers and infants and for children of all ages; instruction in hygiene for the general public; the provision in each district of at least one hospital with a maternity ward; a baby clinic, day nurseries during the summer, a colony for physically defective children, and a traveling health exhibit. The instruction in hygiene is to be closely connected with the general educational work of the districts and is to be carried out through the public reading rooms, clubs, and similar institutions. The governments of the federated States are required to provide the necessary funds for carrying out the program.

#### NEW STATE LEGISLATION

A *Wyoming* law authorizes a tax levy not to exceed  $\frac{5}{10}$  of 1 mill on all taxable property in each county of the State to provide funds for the payment of mothers' pensions. Under an amendment to the *Minnesota*

mothers' pension law, allowance is now available for a child under 16 who is legally entitled to an employment permit, providing such child is regularly attending school or through physical or mental disability is unable to work; under the former law, no aid could be granted for a child eligible to an employment certificate. *Kansas* passed an act by virtue of which all private institutions of a charitable nature which receive State aid are subject to the same visitation, inspection and supervision by the State Board of Administration as public charitable institutions of the State.

A *Colorado* law gives the State Board of Health power to direct and enforce regulations concerning maternity hospitals receiving unmarried women for confinement, prohibits adoption of illegitimate children born in such hospitals except with the consent of the Board of Control of the State Home for Dependent and Neglected Children, and requires mothers to nurse their babies while in maternity hospitals unless physically unable to do so. A new *Massachusetts* law provides that in the case of a child born out of wedlock but legitimized by the subsequent marriage of its parents the birth record shall be changed so as to indicate such legitimacy. A *Minnesota* law also makes provision for a change in the birth record of an illegitimate child if its parents marry and report as required.

*Pennsylvania* passed a law granting to both parents equal rights in the guardianship of minor children and a law equalizing the rights of males and females to letters of administration.

A *Connecticut* Bill providing for fine or imprisonment or both for persons contributing to the delinquency of a child under 16 years was passed. A *Colorado* Act reduces from twenty-one to eighteen the term of commitment to the industrial school for boys, and provides for mental tests after a period of five years in the school, or sooner if deemed advisable, to determine whether the boy shall be kept longer in the school. *Hawaii* amended its laws relating to punishment of persons responsible for directly or indirectly promoting or contributing to the conditions that render a child dependent or delinquent. *New Jersey* amended the law relating to commitment of girls to the State Home for Girls by reducing the maximum age from nineteen to seventeen years. *Oregon* passed a bill authorizing the establishment in connection with the State Training School of a department to which young persons between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one convicted of felonies and sentenced to the penitentiary may be transferred by the governor, and providing for the return of such persons to the penitentiary if after transfer they prove incorrigible. *Tennessee* authorized the Commissioner of State Institutions to transfer to prison at the age of eighteen boys committed to the reformatory for murder

in the first degree or for rape. *Wyoming* provided for the establishment in Sheridan County under the State Board of Charities and Reform for a girls' industrial institute, authorized by act of 1923.

A law passed by *Tennessee* authorizes the State Department of Institutions to provide care, treatment, and education for crippled children of the State whose parents or guardians through neglect or financial inability fail to provide such care. Application is made to the judge or chairman of the county court of the county where the child resides.

*Iowa* passed a Bill making appropriations for the higher education of blind students and one granting State aid to school corporations which furnish certain prescribed instruction to deaf children under fourteen years of age (under the former law the maximum age was twelve).

A *Delaware* Act authorizes the State Board of Education to provide for blind babies of the State and blind children too young or too backward to enter schools for the blind, and authorizes an appropriation for the purpose. The Board may contract with institutions in Delaware or in other States for the necessary care and education of such children, the contract to be effective until the child reaches the age of eight years or unless canceled by the Board before that time.

It is interesting to note that *New Mexico's* new adoption law meets practically all of the minimum standards for such legislation. There is provision for referring for investigation each case of adoption of a minor child to the State Board of Public Welfare. This law also provides for a trial residence period of six months. A notable feature of the new law is the conferring of exclusive jurisdiction upon the district courts which, in this State, serve as juvenile courts.

## CHANGES FOR DIRECTORY

### NEW MEMBERS

LOUISIANA.—Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (C), New Orleans, 908 Esplanade Avenue, Miss Susan K. Gilleen, Supt.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Division of Mental Hygiene, Massachusetts, Department of Mental Diseases (E), Boston, Douglas A. Thom, M.D., Director.

WISCONSIN.—Catholic Social Welfare Bureau (C), Milwaukee, 471 Van Buren Street, Rev. M. F. McEvoy, Director.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

GEORGIA.—Georgia Children's Home Society, Atlanta, Box 1386 (Office). Receiving Home, Ormewood Court.

HAVE you read all of the League's publications? We can supply the following in such numbers as are desired:

BULLETIN No. 6.—The Need for Psychological Interpretation in the Placement of Dependent Children, by Jessie Taft, Ph.D.  
Price, Fifteen Cents

BULLETIN No. 7.—What Dependent Children Need. Edited by C. V. Williams.  
Price, Twenty-five Cents

BULLETIN No. 11.—The Problem of the Unmarried Mother and Her Child, by Ruth I. Workum.  
Price, Fifteen Cents

### CASE STUDIES—

No. 1, Edited by Miss Georgia G. Ralph. The service given by a child-placing agency to a family with three small children where the mother was in need of sanitarium care. In Three Parts.

Price, Thirty Cents (complete)  
Twenty-five or more copies, Twenty-five Cents Each  
No. 2, A Study of the Experience of a Nursery School in Training a Child Adopted from an Institution, by Helen T. Woolley, Ph.D.  
Price, Twenty-five Cents  
Ten or more copies, Fifteen Cents Each

## ENCLOSURES

(Sent to members of League only)

The enclosures for this month are as follows:

1. "Barbara Behind the Bars" is a graphic illustration of the way a dramatic incident can be used to focus attention and educate the public. It is one of a series of similar examples from Ohio welfare services.
2. "On the Outside Looking In" carries its own message. It was a successful Christmas appeal.
3. "Information Exchange" for February and March.
4. Annual Report of the Society for the Relief of Destitute Children of Seamen, 1925. This is a remarkably interesting statement of the change of policy which this organization effected during the past year. As a non-technical, tactful, and attractive statement we send it to our members.
5. New record forms: A simplified "Record of Child's Own Family" and "Child's Personal Record" are designed for the use of institutions whose case working and clerical service may not be as adequate as that of a case working agency. The forms have been carefully compiled from the larger set of forms published by the League and are sold at the following rates: 100 or more copies, 2½ cents each; lots of less than 100, 3 cents each.

The "Child's Medical Record" blank is intended for the use of all agencies. It has place for detailed initial examination and two routine examinations, as well as for various tests and inoculations that were not provided for in the old medical blank. The price of this blank is 2½ cents a copy.



## INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON ILLEGITIMACY BULLETIN

*President:* MRS. RUTH I. WORKUM, Cincinnati, Ohio.

*Vice-President:* MR. C. V. WILLIAMS, Chicago, Illinois.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* MISS ELIZABETH YERKA, Madison, Wis.

One of the most interesting sessions of the Mid-West Regional Conference recently held in Chicago was a luncheon meeting at which Mrs. Ruth I. Workum, President of the Inter-City Conference on Illegitimacy, presided, and Miss Ruth Colby, Associate Director of the Children's Bureau of Minnesota, was the principal speaker. Miss Colby, in discussing her topic, "The Unmarried Mother and Her Baby," explained the Minnesota laws regarding illegitimate children, which are the basis for all work pertaining to illegitimacy in Minnesota. The laws are as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Control when notified of a woman who is delivered of an illegitimate child, or pregnant with child likely to be illegitimate when born, to take care that the interests of the child are safeguarded, that appropriate steps are taken to establish his paternity, and that there is secured for him the nearest possible approximation to the care, support and education that he would be entitled to if born of lawful marriage."

"The licensee owning or conducting such hospital (maternity) shall within twenty-four hours after a birth occurs therein make a written report thereof to the State Board of Control giving the name of the mother, the sex of the child and such additional information as shall be within the knowledge of the licensee and as may be required by the Board."

Because all of the maternity hospitals supported the passage of these laws in 1917, they are easily enforced today in Minnesota and as a result 1,065 births of illegitimate children were reported to the Board of Control last year, making it possible for the Board of Control to supervise and care for these cases. One of the most important regulations of the Board of Control and Board of Health is that the mothers must nurse their babies three months on the theory that what is good for a legitimate child is also of value to the illegitimate child. This means that during the period of the first three months of the child's life not only is the child given an opportunity to become strong and healthy but an opportunity is also given to study the unmarried mother and the unmarried father. It is understood in Minnesota that the child has a father as well as a mother and that efforts must be made to find the father and to make him feel his responsibility toward his child. Plans are made slowly for the future of the mother and the baby. All records are confidential, especially the records of court proceedings. Because the Board of Control is also, according to law, notified of all hearings to establish paternity, an opportunity is given for a representative of the Children's Bureau to help in the investigation of the case and to recommend to the court the amount of support which the adjudged father should pay for the support of the child. Within the last year from June, 1924, to 1925, \$33,000 was paid directly to the Board of Control as trustee in this matter.

Miss Colby's statement of the situation indicated that

illegitimate children in Minnesota are protected socially, financially and legally and that there is a very close co-operation between the State Department and all of the maternity hospitals in the state.

The Pittsburgh Parenthood Conference has just started a study of the Standards in Maternity Homes. It is hoped that when this is completed the BULLETIN may have the results, so that it may be printed, as it is thought other conferences will find it is valuable.

The Director of the Children's Bureau, State Board of Public Welfare, Virginia, writes: "We have been interested lately in the problem of illegitimacy in Virginia, particularly as related to our legislation on the subject. We really have none and are anxious to assist those who are interested in the passage of a bill establishing the paternity of illegitimate children and getting support for them at the Legislature which meets this coming winter. Miss A. Madorah Donahue, of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, spoke at our State Conference of Social Work and also met a few of us in personal interviews. Among other things, she suggested organizing a local conference of illegitimacy."

Mr. William Hodson, recently speaking to the Children's Conference of the Milwaukee Central Council of Social Agencies, said: "Everything possible must be done before a child is taken from natural home surroundings. Agencies and institutions which receive children without knowing that all resources known to social workers have been tested to keep a normal family group are only aiding and abetting juvenile courts that often hastily allow children to be taken on permanent commitments. It would be a splendid report of any organization to say, 'we have been able to turn down so many applications of this year (either for temporary placement or permanent commitment) because our workers have been able to provide family care by making proper adjustments in their homes.' The work of a child-placing agency can be evaluated more successfully by the number of cases it refuses for good reasons than by those placed in good homes. The public so often erroneously feels that an agency or institution is only serving the public well as it lengthens its list of placements."

"While children should never be taken permanently until we are satisfied home care can never be made right, it is not sufficient to refuse to take them. The proper form of follow-up work is necessary to do justice to the child in its own home. One institution in another state frankly admitted that at one time they could have placed half of the children in private homes but the buildings were new and they had campaigned for funds so they thought it unwise to decrease its population."

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

(Inter-City Conference on Illegitimacy)

Individual dues, \$1.00; Group dues, \$5.00, payable to the Treasurer, Juvenile Department, Board of Control, Madison, Wis.